

a  
--Figs. 3a and 3b are axial views of a ball ramp actuator, with internal ball tracks indicated by dotted lines, illustrating an embodiment of the present invention, with Fig. 3a illustrating the balls in an outer position and Fig. 3b illustrating the balls in an inner position after relative rotation of the cam plates;--

✓  
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 18 with the following substitute paragraph:

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--Figures 3a and 3b are axial views of a ball ramp actuator 20, with Fig. 3a illustrating the balls in an outer position and Fig. 3b illustrating the balls in an inner position after relative rotation of the cam plates 22, 24. The ball ramp actuator 20 comprises two identical cam plates 22 and 24 with non-circumferential ball tracks, comprising grooves 26 and 28, facing each other, with three balls 30 therebetween. As the cam plates 22 and 24 are rotated with respect to each other, the balls 30 are driven radially, while staying in the intersecting opposed ball tracks, ensuring their precise location as they move up and down the ramps of the grooves 26 and 28, without slippage.--

In the claims

✓  
Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

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11.(New) A ball ramp actuator for use as a locking mechanism, the actuator comprising:  
a first cam plate having at least one groove providing a non-circumferential ball ramp, the first cam plate groove being positioned progressively more radially outward as the groove extends clockwise about the cam plate;